



Holly Beach Sand Management Project (CS-31)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2002 **Cost:** \$19.3 million
Project Area: 8,901 acres **Status:** Construction
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 330 acres
Project Type: Shoreline Protection

Location

The project is located west of Calcasieu Pass along the Gulf of Mexico shoreline, extending between Holly Beach and Constance Beach in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The Chenier Plain shoreline was created by sediment transported by the Mississippi River's periodic westward oscillation. The swales that characterize the Chenier Plain were created by the deposition of these alluvial sediments, and these same sediments also served to extend the shoreline gulfward and create the area's expansive mudflats.

Chronic erosion in this area is caused by a lack of sand and sediment due to the channelization and regulation of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers to the east. In addition, the Calcasieu and Mermentau rivers are not supplying coarse-grained sediment to the area, and the Cameron Jetties associated with the Calcasieu Ship Channel deflect the little material that does exist away from the project area.

Restoration Strategy

The project's goals are: (1) to protect approximately 8,000 acres of existing, low energy intermediate and brackish marsh wetlands north of the chenier ridge and (2) to create and protect roughly 300 acres of beach dune and coastal chenier habitat from erosion and degradation.

The project plan consists of placing approximately 1.7 million cubic yards of high quality sand on the beach to reestablish a more historic shoreline, as well as improve the effectiveness of the existing segmented breakwater system.



As the area's shoreline erosion continues, homes, camps, and infrastructure face dire consequences.



This project will provide protection for the chenier ridge upon which Louisiana Highway 82 is built. This chenier provides the last line of defense for the marsh that lies behind it.

Progress to Date

This project was selected for Phase 2 (construction) funding at the August 2001 Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force meeting. This project is on Priority Project List 11.

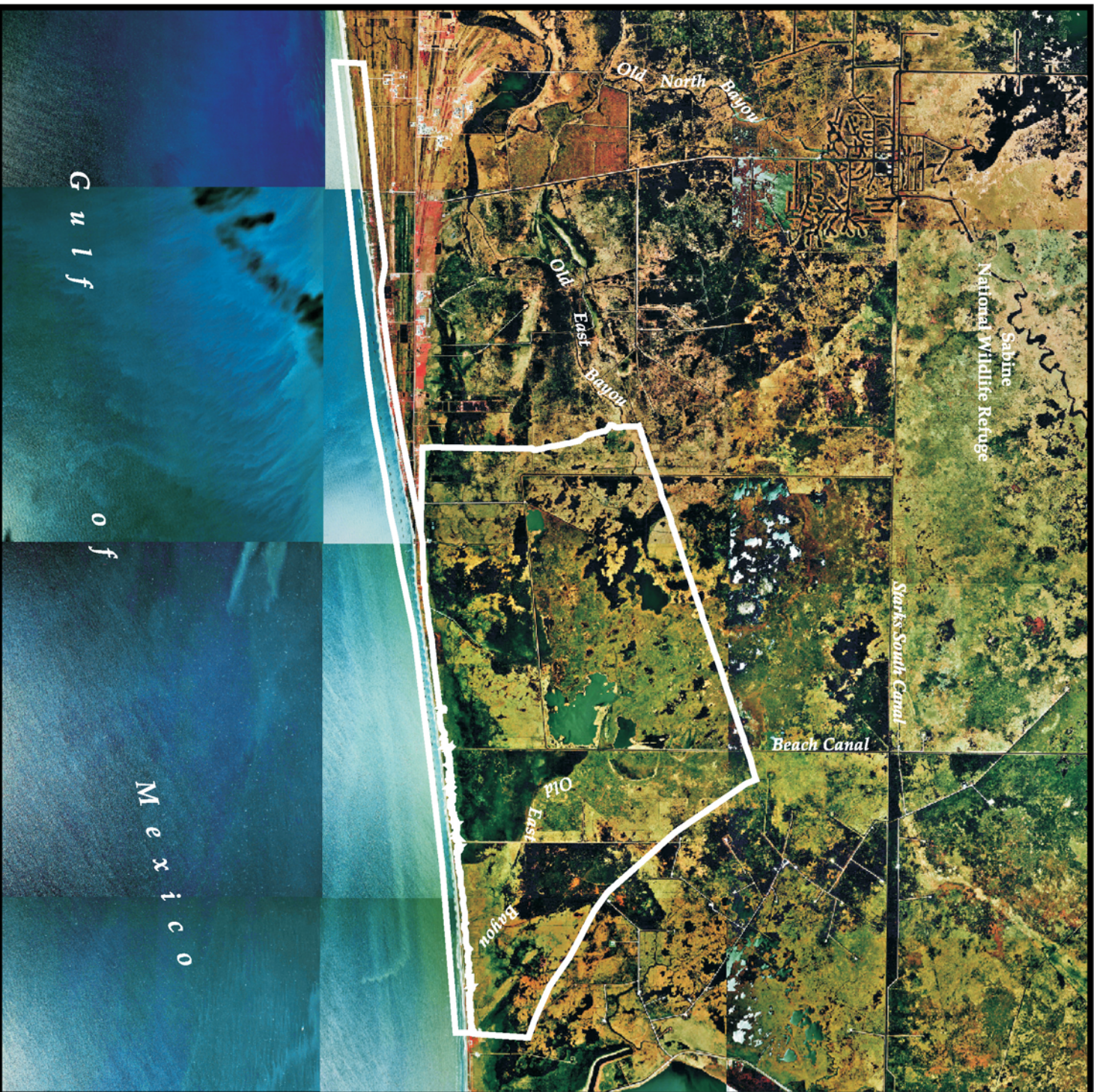
For more project information, please contact:



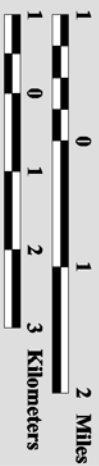
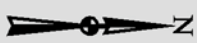
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Local Sponsor:
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Map Produced By:
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1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangles
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